

(3) in light of growing challenges in the Asia-Pacific region and some steps by the Government of Vietnam to improve its human rights record, the President should begin a process to ease the United States prohibition on the sale of lethal military equipment to Vietnam, which is maintained under executive authority and can be changed without legislative action, but should not be changed without consultation with Congress;

(4) easing the prohibition on the sale of lethal military equipment to Vietnam at this time solely with regard to maritime and coastal defense would further United States national security interests, but steps beyond this to ease further the prohibition would require the Government of Vietnam to take significant and sustained steps to protect human rights, including releases of prisoners of conscience and legal reforms;

(5) the United States Government should continue to support civil society in Vietnam, including advocates for religious freedom, press freedom, and labor rights who seek to use peaceful means to build a strong and prosperous Vietnam that respects human rights and the rule of law; and

(6) the United States Government should continue to engage the Government of Vietnam in a high-level dialogue and specify what steps on human rights would be necessary for the Government of Vietnam to take in order to continue strengthening the bilateral relationship, including to ease further the prohibition on the sale of lethal military equipment.

SENATE RESOLUTION 568—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2014 AS “NATIONAL SEPSIS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 568

Whereas sepsis is a medical condition resulting from an immune system response to an infection;

Whereas the overwhelming flood of immune chemicals released into the blood to fight an infection can impair blood flow, injuring organs;

Whereas sepsis is a serious community-acquired infection and a leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas in severe cases of sepsis, a patient can experience a drop in blood pressure, a weakened heart, and septic shock, causing potentially fatal multiple organ failure;

Whereas approximately 1,000,000 individuals in the United States are infected with sepsis each year;

Whereas sepsis has killed over 4,000,000 individuals in the United States between 2004 and 2014;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that approximately 50 percent of individuals infected with sepsis die, accounting for more deaths in the United States than prostate cancer, breast cancer, and AIDS combined;

Whereas according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, sepsis is the most expensive cause of hospitalization in the United States, with an annual cost of \$24,000,000,000;

Whereas the number of sepsis deaths is on the rise in the United States;

Whereas an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association reports that more than 80 percent of individuals who die from sepsis arrive at the hospital with sepsis;

Whereas early recognition, diagnosis, and treatment can prevent sepsis fatalities; and

Whereas September 2014 is an appropriate month to designate as “National Sepsis Awareness Month” to raise awareness of sepsis and encourage educating patients, families, health care professionals, and government agencies on the importance of early detection as the key for patients to survive sepsis: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the month of September 2014 as “National Sepsis Awareness Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 569—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 23, 2014, AS “NATIONAL FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY” TO RAISE AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGE THE PREVENTION OF FALLS AMONG OLDER ADULTS

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 569

Whereas adults who are age 65 or older (referred to in this preamble as “older adults”) are the fastest-growing population in the United States;

Whereas the number of older adults in the United States is expected to increase from 35,000,000 older adults in 2000 to 79,700,000 older adults in 2040;

Whereas each year, 1 out of every 3 older adults in the United States falls;

Whereas falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries among older adults;

Whereas in 2012, more than 2,400,000 older adults were treated in hospital emergency departments for fall-related injuries, and more than 722,000 older adults were subsequently hospitalized from such injuries;

Whereas in 2011, more than 22,900 older adults in the United States died from injuries related to unintentional falls;

Whereas in 2010, the total direct medical cost of fall-related injuries for older adults, adjusted for inflation, was \$30,000,000,000;

Whereas between 2004 and 2014, the rate of death from falls of older adults in the United States has risen sharply;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that if the rate of increase in falls does not decrease, the annual cost of injuries from falls will reach an estimated \$67,700,000,000 by 2020; and

Whereas evidence-based programs show promise in reducing falls by utilizing cost-effective strategies, such as exercise programs to improve balance and strength, medication management, vision improvement, comprehensive clinical assessments, and reduction of home hazards: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 23, 2014, as “National Falls Prevention Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that there are proven, cost-effective falls prevention programs and policies;

(3) commends the 72 member organizations of the Falls Free® Coalition, and the falls prevention coalitions in 42 States and the District of Columbia, for their efforts to work together to increase education and awareness about preventing falls among adults who are age 65 or older (referred to in this resolution as “older adults”);

(4) encourages businesses, individuals, Federal, State, and local governments, the public health community, and health care providers to work together to raise awareness of falls in an effort to reduce the incidence of falls among older adults in the United States;

(5) urges the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to continue developing and evaluating interventions to prevent falls among older adults that will translate into effective community-based falls prevention programs;

(6) urges the Administration for Community Living, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and their partners to continue to promote evidence-based programs and services in communities across the United States to reduce the number of older adults at risk of falling;

(7) encourages State health departments and State Units on Aging, which provide significant leadership in reducing injuries and related health care costs, to collaborate with organizations and individuals to reduce falls among older adults in the United States; and

(8) encourages experts in the field of falls prevention to share best practices so that others can replicate their success.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, today, I wish to bring awareness to the growing problem of falls amongst our seniors, the fastest-growing population in the United States. Each year, one out of every three older Americans over age 65 falls, resulting in more than 2,400,000 older hospital emergency department visits and more than 22,900 deaths resulting from injuries sustained in unintentional falls. The costs associated with these falls are equally alarming: in 2010, the direct medical cost of fall-related injuries for older adults was \$30,000,000,000. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that if the rate of falls does not decrease, the annual cost of injuries resulting from falls will reach an estimated \$67,700,000,000 by 2020.

These staggering numbers are alarming, and we must work to reduce the incidence of falls among older adults by utilizing cost-effective strategies to improve balance and strength through exercise programs, improve comprehensive clinical assessments, and reduce hazards in seniors' homes. That is why today I have put forth this Resolution to designate September 23, 2014, as National Falls Prevention Awareness Day. I thank my colleagues, Senator COLLINS, my partner on the Senate Special Committee on Aging, and Senators MIKULSKI and SANDERS for joining with me in support of National Falls Prevention Awareness Day. National Falls Prevention Awareness Day seeks to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among older adults. The 72 member organizations of the Falls Free Coalition and the falls prevention coalitions in 42 States and the District of Columbia have worked tirelessly to increase education and awareness about preventing falls among older Americans. We will continue to foster and encourage these coalitions and ensure the safety and independence of our older adults as they age in their homes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 570—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 17, 2014, AS “NATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE DAY”

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. MIKULSKI,